## **DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION/Conference, Passage**

SUBJECT: Conference report to accompany the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000 . . . S. 1059. Agreeing to the report.

## **ACTION: CONFERENCE REPORT AGREED TO, 93-5**

SYNOPSIS: The conference report to accompany S. 1059, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2000, will authorize a total of \$288.8 billion, which is \$8.3 billion more than requested by the Clinton Administration and which represents a 2.2-percent real increase in defense spending. Highlights include a 4.8-percent pay raise and \$8.49 billion for military construction and family housing, which is \$3.06 billion more than requested. Details are provided below.

Procurement authorizations totaling \$55.708 billion will be enacted (the Administration requested \$53.020 billion), including:

- \$3.385 billion net for 15 C-17 transport aircraft;
- \$1.766 billion for 6 F-22 Raptor fighter aircraft;
- \$2.801 billion for the procurement of 36 F/A-18E/F Super Hornet fighter aircraft;
- \$2.735 billion for 3 DDG-51 destroyers;
- \$1.508 billion for 2 LPD-17 amphibious ships; and
- \$375 million for advance procurement for the LHD-8 amphibious assault ship.

Research, development, test, and evaluation authorizations totaling \$36.267 billion will be enacted (the Administration requested \$34.375 billion), including:

- \$3.652 billion for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO), including \$527.8 million for the Theater High Altitude Aerial Defense (THAAD) program and \$419.8 million for the Navy Theater Wide (Upper Tier) program; the bill rejects the proposed acquisition strategy that would put the THAAD and Upper Tier programs into competition for the same resources; this funding will also include \$851.5 million for National Missile Defense;
  - \$483.1 million for the Comanche helicopter program; and
  - \$308.6 million for the Airborne Laser program.

(See other side)

YEAS (93)				NAYS (5)		NOT VOTING (1)	
		nocrats Rep	Republicans	Democrats (5 or 11%)	Republicans	Democrats (0)	
		(40 or 89%)			(0 or 0%)		(1)
Abraham Allard Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brownback Bunning Burns Campbell Chafee Cochran Collins Coverdell Craig Crapo DeWine Domenici Enzi Fitzgerald Frist Gramm Grams Grams Grassley Gregg Hagel Hatch Helms	Hutchinson Hutchison Inhofe Jeffords Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McConnell Murkowski Nickles Roberts Roth Santorum Sessions Shelby Smith, Bob (I) Smith, Gordon Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Voinovich Warner	Akaka Baucus Bayh Biden Bingaman Breaux Bryan Byrd Cleland Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Durbin Edwards Feinstein Graham Hollings Inouye Johnson	Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Landrieu Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Lincoln Mikulski Moynihan Murray Reed Reid Robb Rockefeller Sarbanes Schumer Torricelli Wyden		Boxer Feingold Harkin Kohl Wellstone	VOTING PE Gorton EXPLANAT 1—Official B 2—Necessari 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Announ AN—Announ PY—Paired N	TON OF ABSENC dusiness ly Absent need Yea need Yea need Nay

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Recommended active duty end strengths: 1,385,432 as follows: Army, 480,000; Navy, 372,037; Air Force, 360,877; and Marine Corps, 172,518.

Recommended selected reserve end strengths: 873,298, as follows: Army National Guard, 350,000; Army Reserve, 205,000; Naval Reserve, 90,288; Marine Corps Reserve 39,624; Air National Guard, 106,678; Air Force Reserve, 73,708; and Coast Guard Reserve, 8,000.

Key miscellaneous provisions include the following:

- a 4.8-percent pay raise for military personnel will be provided effective January 1, 2000, and annual military pay raises of 5 percent above the annual increase in the Employment Cost Index will be authorized through fiscal year 2006;
  - service members will be permitted to participate in the Federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP);
- new safeguards will be enacted to improve security at Department of Energy Labs (information has surfaced of a massive Chinese espionage program that has stolen virtually all of the United States' nuclear weapons secrets from those labs; to make further successful espionage much less likely, those labs will be reorganized; the reorganization, with minor modifications will be in accordance with the reorganization proposal approved by the Senate on the Intelligence Authorization bill (see vote No. 216);
- it is the sense of the Senate that funding should be provided for the investigation of war crimes in Kosovo and the arrest and prosecution of those people alleged to have committed such crimes (see vote No. 141);
- the President will not be asked to advance Rear Admiral (retired) Kimmel and Major General (retired) Short on the retired list to the highest ranks they held in service (for related debate, see vote No. 142);
- the President will have to certify whether the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO's) new Strategic Concept has any new obligations, and, if so, it is the sense of Congress that he should submit it for ratification (for related debate, see vote No. 143);
  - a new round of base closures will not be authorized (for related debate, see vote No. 147);
  - the Defense Department will be required to survey personnel leaving military service to determine their reasons for leaving;
- it is the sense of Congress that sanctions on Libya should be continued until it meets all the original conditions stated as requirements for those sanctions to be lifted (see vote No. 152);
  - monitoring of the export of advanced satellite technology will be improved;
- the President will be required to submit to Congress a report that will prioritize overseas missions involving United States combat forces and that will analyze how low-priority missions may be ended;
  - a report will be prepared on military-to-military contacts between the United States and China; and
  - veterans who were honorably discharged will be entitled to honor guards at their funerals.

## Those favoring passage contended:

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have candidly said that the defense budget the Administration has submitted is underfunded by \$18 billion. This bill, with broad, bipartisan support, will take a major step toward eliminating that shortfall by authorizing an \$8 billion increase in defense spending. This increase will mark the first real increase in defense spending in 15 years. Key features include that a 4.8-percent pay raise will be provided and that a large increase will be given for military housing. The only part of this bill that is controversial is the section reorganizing the Department of Energy. That section is essentially the same as the proposal that the Senate earlier approved on an overwhelming vote on the Intelligence Authorization Bill. Some Members say they are concerned that it takes too much responsibility away from the Secretary of Energy, but all it does is take away the confusing lines of authority from numerous bureaucratic layers at the Department. Those layers blur accountability. Every analysis to date of the Chinese espionage scandal has found that the Energy Department's bureaucratic structure is to blame for making that espionage possible. The only ones who have anything to fear from the reforms in this bill are foreign spies and the Energy Department bureaucrats who may be exposed as superfluous, once their right to meddle in nuclear policies is removed and they are left only with the job of arguing over such matters as refrigerator efficiency standards. We enthusiastically support both the reorganization proposal and the increased defense spending in this conference report and are pleased to vote for its adoption.

## While favoring passage, some Senators expressed the following reservations:

We are very supportive of the defense provisions in this bill, but we are deeply troubled by the provisions on reorganizing the Department of Energy. Those reorganization provisions are not the same as the provisions which we voted for on the Intelligence Authorization Bill--a lot of language has been added that we believe is ambiguous and may strip the Secretary of Energy of his ability to exercise authority over the nuclear laboratories. We are fearful that without clear lines of authority there will be further cases of successful espionage. After considering the language very carefully, we have come to the conclusion that a forceful Secretary of Energy probably will be able to exercise the necessary oversight. Therefore, we will vote for this conference report.